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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ACCESSING INFORMATION AND SERVICES ON A COMPUTER NETWORK

(57) Abstract: A facility for automatically accessing information and/or services on a computer network is described. The facility transmits a request for information and/or services by reading a unique code off of a computer-readable medium, and transmitting the unique code to a server computer using a network-enabled device. In response to receiving the unique code, the server computer retrieves selected data from a database table, the selected data being linked to the unique code in the database table. The selected data is then provided to the network-enabled device. In one embodiment, the selected data can include a web site or an application program. In another embodiment, the selected data can include a URL. When a URL is provided to the network-enabled device, the facility can launch a browser program on the network-enabled device to retrieve the information and/or services associated with the URL.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7   G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7   G06F   H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	EP 0 837 406 A (SYMBOL TECHNOLOGIES INC) 22 April 1998 (1998-04-22)	1,9-14, 16-20, 22,23
A		2-8,15, 21,24,25
	page 10, line 18 -page 11, line 30 page 11, line 16-36 page 31, line 16-50 page 41, line 30-38 claims 1-3,13-15 figures 27A-28	
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.　　☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
21 November 2003	02/12/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Lázaro, M.L.

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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